

## ACADEMY FOR CAREER EXCELLENCE

80 Lowcountry Drive  
Ridgeland, SC 29936

**GRADES** 9-12 Career Center

**ENROLLMENT** 541 Students

**DIRECTOR** Catherine M. Smith, Ed.D. 843-987-8107

**BOARD CHAIR** Mrs. Kathleen Snooks 843-726-8063

### **SUPERINTENDENTS**

Herman K. Gaither Beaufort County 843-322-2300

Dr. William Singleton Jasper 843-717-1100

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

# 2004

#### **ABSOLUTE RATING:**

#### **AVERAGE**

#### Absolute Ratings of Career Centers

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
33	3	3	1	0

#### **IMPROVEMENT RATING:**

#### **GOOD**

#### **ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:**

#### **YES**

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL**

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:**

**[WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM](http://WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM)**

**[WWW.SCEOC.ORG](http://WWW.SCEOC.ORG)**

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Improvement Rating</b>	<b>Adequate Yearly Progress</b>
<b>2001</b>	Average	N/A	N/A
<b>2002</b>	Good	Excellent	N/A
<b>2003</b>	Below Average	Unsatisfactory	Yes
<b>2004</b>	Average	Good	Yes

**DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS**

- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS**

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the state rating for career and technology centers must be Excellent, Good, Above Average, Average or Below Average.

**PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS**

	<b>Mastering Core Competencies</b>			<b>Receiving Diplomas</b>			<b>Place in Field</b>		
	<b>This Center</b>		<b>State Center Average%</b>	<b>This Center</b>		<b>State Center Average%</b>	<b>This Center</b>		<b>State Center Average%</b>
	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	
<b>All Students</b>	210	72.9%	80.6%	66	72.7%	91.9%	139	95.7%	97.6%
<b>Students with disabilities on diploma track</b>	6	66.7%	74.2%	0	N/A	86.3%	7	100.0%	98.7%
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	131	67.2%	77.6%	38	73.7%	91.4%	67	97.1%	98.4%
Female	79	82.3%	84.3%	28	71.4%	92.4%	66	94.3%	96.5%
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>									
White	79	79.8%	85.9%	26	88.5%	95.3%	49	94.2%	98.2%
African-American	119	68.9%	73.3%	35	65.7%	86.6%	80	97.6%	96.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	I/S	88.9%	1	I/S	96.6%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Hispanic	9	55.6%	83.3%	1	I/S	87.2%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
American Indian/Alaskan	0	N/A	75.0%	0	N/A	100.0%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
<b>Migrant Status</b>									
Migrant									
Non-migrant									
<b>English Proficiency</b>									
Limited English Proficient	5	60.0%	79.5%	4	I/S	81.0%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Non-Limited English Proficient	205	73.2%	81.1%	62	75.8%	92.0%	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>									
Subsidized meals	107	72.9%	74.5%	34	67.6%	87.7%	62	98.4%	97.1%
Full-pay meals	103	72.8%	85.2%	32	78.1%	94.3%	71	93.4%	97.7%

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

**DEFINITIONS OF PERFORMANCE RATING TERMS**

- Mastering Core Competencies-The percentage of students enrolled in career and technology courses at the center who earn a 2.0 or above on the final course grade.
- Graduation Rate-The percentage of 12th grade career and technology students who graduate in the spring.
- Placement Rate-The percentage of career and technology completers available for placement over a 3-year period who are actually placed in postsecondary instruction, military services, or employment.

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

**SCHOOL PROFILE**

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Change from Last Year</b>	<b>Median Career Center</b>
<b>Students (n= 541)</b>			
With disabilities other than speech	1.1%	No change	1.7%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	14.2%	Up from 12.9%	16.7%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	541	No change	561
Students participating in worked-based experiences	100.0%	Up from 99.1%	35.5%

<b>Teachers (n= 31)</b>			
Teachers with advanced degrees	29.0%	Down from 30.0%	25.0%
Continuing contract teachers	54.8%	Down from 63.3%	79.2%
Highly qualified teachers**	87.5%	N/A	89.2%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	13.8%		8.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	90.6%	Up from 84.4%	89.8%
Teacher attendance rate	96.7%	N/R	95.8%
Average teacher salary	\$42,702	Up 1.3%	\$42,385
Prof. development days/teacher	11.1 days	Up from 9.6 days	11.5 days

<b>School</b>			
Director's years at Center	1.0	Up from 0.0	5.0
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,688	Up 18.3%	\$3,331
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	24.5%	Down from 41.9%	54.0%
Parents attending conferences	68.2%	Down from 80.0%	83.3%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	<b>Our District</b>	<b>State</b>
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	N/A	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	N/A	91.1%

\*\*NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

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**REPORT OF DIRECTOR AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL**

The Beaufort-Jasper Academy for Career Excellence serves to provide high school students with high-level technically oriented skills leading to opportunities for successful careers, responsible citizenship, and post-secondary education.

During the academic year 2003-2004, the hallmark of ACE has been transformational change driven by data and a model for high school reform, High Schools that Work, facilitated by the Southern Regional Education Board. ACE received its first independent accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Middle and Secondary Schools on April 7, 2004.

ACE offers 15 rigorous occupational programs for students in grades 10-12. Students select a course of study integrating their chosen occupational program with college preparatory academic classes. In September of 2003, 507 students enrolled in the Academy for Career Excellence. Upon graduation, these students have the option to enter the workforce directly, choose to apply their skills in a military career, or continue their education in a college or university.

Student achievement has been the focus in the academic year 2003-04. The faculty remained committed to infusing reading throughout the technical and academic curriculum and to require two research-based projects each year. The longitudinal pass rate on the high school exit exam rose 5.3% in 2003-2004. Fifty-six students participated in the required senior project that involved writing a topic-related research paper, developing a product, creating a portfolio, and presenting their work to a panel of judges from business, industry, and the military. Seventeen students qualified for induction into the National Technical Honor Society.

Student leadership activities were strongly encouraged during the 2003-2004 year. Twenty-seven students competed in Skills USA/VICA and FFA competitions, and 11 students placed in the top three in the following categories: Cosmetology (hair and nails), Automotive Technology, and Culinary Arts. Three students competed in the FFA competition in public speaking.

Strong ties to our business community continue to be foremost in our school improvement plan. Our school has over 109 business and industry partners involved in our school-to-work initiatives and ACE has provided 1013 opportunities for students to participate in work-based learning activities.

Catherine M. Smith, Director  
Frank Gibson, Chairman of SIC

**EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS**

	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Students*</b>	<b>Parents*</b>
<b>Number of surveys returned</b>	24	34	16
<b>Percent satisfied with learning environment</b>	91.7%	84.8%	87.5%
<b>Percent satisfied with social and physical environment</b>	82.6%	75.8%	87.5%
<b>Percent satisfied with home-school relations</b>	72.7%	82.4%	62.5%

\*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included.